

SENATE BILL 2384
By Crutchfield

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1
and Title 49, Chapter 2, relative to computer technology in
the classroom.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by
adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) The department of education shall develop and implement an ongoing
program of technical support and assistance to encourage and facilitate efforts by local
education agencies to ensure that:

(1) all teachers possess the skills and resources necessary to
successfully utilize modern computer technology as an integral component of
daily instruction and learning in the classroom; and

(2) all students, through pervasive exposure to computers in the
classroom, receive comprehensive instruction and training in the capabilities and
usage of modern computer technology.

(b) Such program of technical support and assistance shall be primarily designed
to facilitate the endeavors of classroom computer technology coordinators employed or
designated as such pursuant to Section 2 of this act. To such end, the program shall
periodically make available the following services:

(1) workshops, seminars, and other training opportunities;

- (2) recommended mechanisms for encouraging, monitoring and evaluating teacher utilization of computer technology;
- (3) recommended mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating student learning;
- (4) suggested programs of in-service teacher training;
- (5) recommended activities to provide teacher assistance, support, and consultation;
- (6) evaluation of new computer hardware and software designed and/or marketed for classroom use; and
- (7) other similar services to assist classroom computer technology coordinators in ensuring that all teachers possess the skills and resources necessary to successfully utilize computer technology as an integral component of daily student instruction and learning and that all students, through pervasive exposure in the classroom, receive comprehensive instruction and training in the capabilities and usage of modern computer technology.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) Each local superintendent shall employ or designate at least one employee to serve as classroom computer technology coordinator for the local education agency. It shall be the duty of the coordinator to ensure that:

- (1) all teachers possess the skills and resources necessary to successfully utilize computer technology as an integral component of daily student instruction and learning, and
- (2) all students, through pervasive exposure to computers in the classroom, receive comprehensive instruction and training in the capabilities and usage of modern computer technology.

(b) On or before July 1, 1997, acting in consultation with the classroom computer technology coordinator, the superintendent shall file with the department of education an implementation plan, not to exceed five (5) years' duration, to ensure that computer technology becomes and remains an integral component of daily instruction and learning and to further ensure that all students, through pervasive exposure to computers in the classroom, receive comprehensive instruction and training in the capabilities and usage of modern computer technology. On or before July 1st each year thereafter, the coordinator shall file with the department an annual report detailing the current status of the implementation plan.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, failure to employ or designate at least one classroom computer technology coordinator or to timely file the implementation plan or annual status report shall subject the local education agency to a withholding of state funds by the commissioner of education.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1996, the public welfare requiring it.